

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/T2004/000127

International filing date (day/month/year)
16.03.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)
06.02.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
B41F17/00

Applicant
ORLANDI S.P.A.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas
Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl
Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016

Authorized Officer

Curt, D

Telephone No. +31 70 340-4383



**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IT2004/000127

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IT2004/000127

Box No. II Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not been furnished:

☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(a)).

☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	11-14,19,20,24,26,27,29
	No: Claims	1-10,15-18,21-23,25,28,30-34
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-34
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-34
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/IT2004/000127

Re Item V.

- 1 The following documents are referred to in this communication:

D1 : US 2002/157547 A1 (CATTARUZZA MAURO ET AL) 31 October 2002
(2002-10-31)

D2 : US 5 743 184 A (SKUDRZYK JOSEPH) 28 April 1998 (1998-04-28)

D3 : EP 0 522 640 A (STORK BRABANT BV) 13 January 1993 (1993-01-13)

D4 : DE 37 44 000 A (HANS AFFUEPPER TEXTILMASCHINEN) 13 July 1989
(1989-07-13)

2. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

Document D1 discloses (the references in parenthesis applying to this document):

An equipment for printing on non-woven-fabric comprising:

- a support (I1-I5) driven such as to transport a sheet (W) of non-woven-fabric;
- at least one driven printing body (P1-P5) in order to carry out the printing and;
- a control and command unit (3) connected with each of said support and at least with one printing body such as to detect electrical signals originating from said support and from at least one printing body (see for instance, column 3, lines 44-45), turn said signals into numerical values representative of the status of their angular speed and torque moment, compare said numerical values with ratios of preset numerical values of angular speed and said torque moment and end signals to said support and at least one printing body in order to correct any possible variations in said values which falls out with said ratios (see for instance column 5, line 5-15).

The attention of the applicant is drawn to the fact that in view of the documents D2 and D3, the subject-matter of claim 1 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

3. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 21 and 32 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT. The features of the method claim 21 are disclosed in Document D1, D2 and D3. Likewise, a non-woven-fabric as described in claim 32 is disclosed in Document D1, D2 and D3.

4. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject matter of claim 34 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2)PCT. Document D4, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art to the subject matter of claim 34, discloses (the references in parenthesis applying to this document):
An equipment for printing on non-woven-fabric(2) comprising a driven support (8) provided with through holes (44) to transport a sheet of non-woven-fabric, at least one driven printing body (6) for implementing the printing (see for instance, column 4, lines 44-54) and driven holding means (54) interacting with the support.
5. Document D1 discloses the features of dependant claims 2,4,7,22,28,32,33. Furthermore, document D2 discloses the features of dependant claims 15-18 and 30.
The combination of Document D3 and D4 discloses the features of dependant claims 3,5,6,8-10,24-26.
Dependant claims 11-14,19,20,23,27,29,31 contains features some of which form part of the normal consideration of the man skilled in the art. Therefore these claims do not appear to contain any additional features which involve an inventive step when combined with the subject matter of any claim to which they refer. (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT).